

United States Patent [19]

Ahmad et al.

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[54] **BINDING ASSAYS IN AUTOMATED APPARATUS WITH LIPOSOME COMPATIBLE SURFACTANTS**

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[57] ABSTRACT

Disclosed is a specific binding assay composition and method for determining a ligand in a sample. The composition comprises (a) a binding partner for the ligand; (b) a detection system which has at least two components; (c) a selectively accessible vesicle having a surface-incorporated ligand or ligand analog and a first component of the detection system therein; (d) a substance which modifies vesicle accessibility in response to binding of surface-incorporated ligand or ligand analog and the binding partner; (e) at least one additional component of the detection system which is reactive with the first component to produce a detectable response; and (f) at least one surfactant which does not modify vesicle accessibility. The composition and method are suitable for use with automated, including continuous flow-type, analyzers.

32 Claims, No Drawings